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SS 35,GPM 03,SC 01,NSC 10,RSC 01,SAL 01,L 03,H 02,P 04,INR 07,
NIC 01,SAH 03,IO 21,AID 30,RSR 01//144 W

P R 021030Z DEP 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6068
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4058
CINCPAC
AMEMB
ASSY VIET IANE 2369
ZRN
AAMCONSUL DANANG 859
GRSTATE GRNC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Isenberg DATE 12/23/81
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES TELEVISION APPEARANCE SEPTEMBER 1

1. FINAL ROUND OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIATE TELEVISION APPEARANCES TOOK PLACE EVENING SEPTEMBER 1 WITH SPEECHES BY SLATES SEVEN THROUGH ELEVEN.
2. TRAN VAN LY AND RUNNING-MATE HUY CONG DUONG OUTLINED THEIR PROGRAM. NGUYEN HOA HIEP CLLED FOCYHONEST ELECTION, NOTED HIS NATIONALIST CREDENTIALS AND REVIEWED HIS CAMPAIGN PLATFORM. HIEP'S RUNNING-MATE NGUYEN THE TRUYEN MENTIONED, AS HE OFTEN

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DOES, THAT HE AND HIEP ARE OLD ACQUAINTACES OF NORTH VIETNAMESE LEADERS AND HENCE CAN DEAL WITH THG. VU HONGSHANH REVIEWED DIFFCULT SITUATION IN WHICH VIETNAM FINDS ITSELF. HIS RUNNING-MATE DUONG TRUONG DONG EMPHASIZED NEED FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTION, NOTED IRREGULARITIES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE, AND CALLED ON PEOPLE TO PREVENT ALL ATTEMPTS AT CHEATING. NGUYEN DINH QUAT SAID THAT VIETNAOVNEEDS DECISIVE LEADERSHIP AND P
EOMISED TO
PROVIDE GOOD GOVERNMENT.
3. GENERAL THIEU APPEARED ALBWE, SPEAKING AFTER HIEP AND BEFORE KHANH. AS HE HAD ANNOUNCED IN PREVIOUS DAY'S JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE, THIEU COVERED TWO TOPICKQXC MILITARY REORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATIV
E
REFORM. HOWEVER, HIS REMARKS WERE VERY GENERAL IN NATURE. THIEU NOTED THAT REGIONAL AND POPULAR FORCES, RD CADRE AND COMBAT YOUTH ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PACIFICATION AND MUST LIVE CLOSE TO PEOPLE. THEY MUST HAVE SKILLED LEADERSHIP. ARMY WILL BE REVAMPED FROM TOP DOWNWARD, SAID THIEU. GVN HAS MADE BEGINNING IN THIS EFFORT DURING LOST TWO YEARS AND WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE IT. LIVELIHOOD AND EDUCATION OF SOLDIERS WILL BE IMPROVED. DEPENDENTS HOUSING PROJECTS WILL BE COMPLETED AND IMPROVED PX SYSTEM WILL BE SINSTITUTED. SALARIES WILL BE INCREASED, AND SAVINGS PLANS AND POST-SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IMPROVED.
4. WITH REGARD TO CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM, ZCIEU NOTED

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COMPLAINTS ABOUT CORRUPTIONHGND RED TAPE. HE SAID THAT PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS OFTEN JUDGE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BY ACTIONS OF GNOIY OFFICIALS, VLTHEREFORE ADEQUATE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE SHOULD BE RENDERED AT LOCAL LEVELOT ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM SHOULD BE SIMPLIFIED, REDTAPE SHOULD BE MINIMIZED, CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES SHOULD BE INCREASED.
5. IN MANY CASES, SAID THIEU, THEREAERE TOO MANY PEOPLE FOR TOO LITTLE WORK, AND VICE VERSA. PERSONNEL ARE NOT ASIGNED AND DISTRIBUTED PROPERLY AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE NOT CLEARLY DEFINED. OVERABUNDANCE OF PERSONNEL IN SOME AREAS FORCES P
PEOPLE TO GO THROUGH NUMEROUS ECHELON TO GET ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, ENCOURAGING OFFERING OF BRIBES TO SPEED THE PRCESS. CIVIL SERVANTS, MANY OF WHOM ARE INADEQUATELY PAID, ARE OFTEN

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HAPPY TO ACCEPT BRIBES. THIEU WOULD BR
ING MORE SKILLED PEOPLE INTO
CIVIL SERVICE, INCREASE THEIR PAY AND PRESCRIBE HAYTH PUNISHMENT
FOR ACCEPTING BRIBES. THIEU REITERATED THAT IN ADDITION TO
IMPROVING EFFECTIVENESS OF CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL, ADMINSTRATIVE
PROCEDURES WILL BE REVISED AND SIMPLIFIED.
BUNKER

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